Identification of fishery

1340. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking steps to identify fishery wealth through National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which this information will be available to the fishermen and Indian entrepreneurs?

THE MINISER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) is disseminating information on Potential Fishing Zones (PFZs) covering the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) twice in a week to all the maritime States and Union Territories. Under this programme, Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) are determined using the data obtained from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Satellite. Information can be obtained from the SSTs on thermal gradients, eddies and upwelling zones, where the fish are found to be abundant. This information is transferred to maps which are sent through fascimile to the fishermen, their associations and Central/State Government fisheries departments and also to private entrepreneurs on every Monday and Thursday. This information is sent by telex/telegram in the form of text, wherever fax facility is not available.

Financial assistance for development of urban roads

1341. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh Government had sought any financial assistance for the development of urban roads during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to provide the same to Uttar Pradesh Government; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) The Government of Uttar Pradesh had forwarded a project proposal called "Uttar Pradesh Urban Development Project-II" in 1993 for obtaining financial assistance from the World Bank. This proposal contains a component for development of urban roads in Uttar Pradesh. The proposal was posed to the World Bank. The bank has informed that they are having a rethinking towards policy for provision of credit facilities to Urban Sector Projects.

The development of urban roads is a State subject. However, to the extent certain roads in urban areas can be proposed under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT). Central assistance could be made available under IDSMT, subejct to availibility of State share and institutional finance.

The Ministry of Surface Transport also administers a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for providing financial assistance in the shape of loan to the State Government for State roads of inter-state/economic importance on certain terms and conditions. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh at the beginning of 8th Five Year Plan forwarded inter alia 9 proposals for state roads bridges including urban roads costing Rs. 8060.89 lakhs under the aforesaid scheme. The proposal has not been approved by the Ministry of Surface Transport owing to resource crunch.